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June 11th,

Dr. MORTON, President, in the Chair.

Mr. P. A. Browne expressed his views in relation to the peculiarities of the hair in man and other mammalia, and more particularly on the absence of a central canal in the hair of certain races of the former, on which he proposes to found specific differences. After some conversation among the members on the organization of hair, Mr. Browne offered a resolution that a committee be appointed to make microscopic investigations on the subject, which was adopted, and the following committee appointed, viz: P. A. Browne, Prof. Haldeman, and Dr. Morton.

June 18th.

Dr. MORTON, President, in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Royal Society of London, dated Somerset House, March 20th, 1850, returning acknowledgments for recent numbers of the Proceedings of the Academy.

Mr. Cassin read a paper entitled "Descriptions of new species of the genera *Vidua*, *Hyphantornis*, *Hirundo*, *Atticora*, *Acanthyliis*, and *Cypselus*, specimens of which are in the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia," which was referred to the following committee: Drs. Wilson, Townsend, and Heermann.

Mr. Moss read a description, with a figure, of a new *Carpolite* from Arkansas, which was referred to the following committee: Dr. Bridges, Mr. Conrad, and Dr. Hallowell.

June 25th.

Dr. MORTON, President, in the Chair.

The committee to whom was referred Mr. Cassin's descriptions of Birds in the collection of the Academy, read at last meeting, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

Descriptions of new species of Birds, specimens of which are in the collections of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

BY JOHN CASSIN.

Vidua Verreauxii, nobis. Vieill. Ois. Chant. pl. 37?

♂. *Form.*—Generally resembling *Vidua paradisea*, (Linn.) Swains. B. of W. Af. I, pl. 11, but is larger, the two longest tail feathers taper gradually to the end from near the middle of the feather, the outer (or upper) webs are very nar-